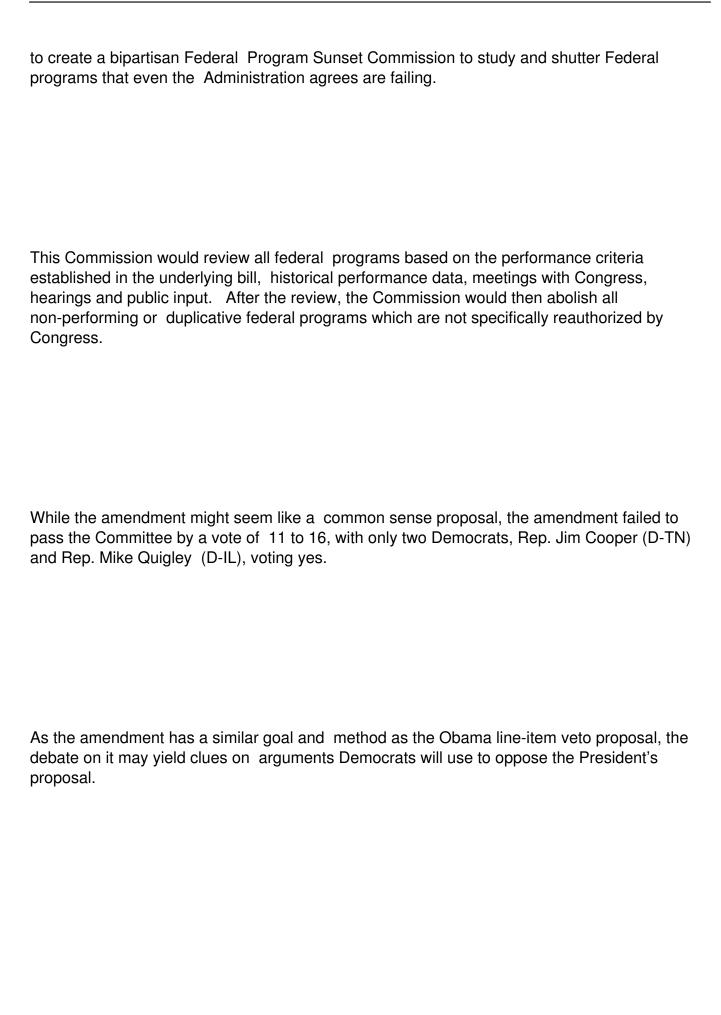
Last week's Debate on Creating a Commission to Shutter Failing Government Programs Offers Insight on Objections Democrats Will Raise to Maintain Wasteful Spending Power
May 25, 2010 House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Ranking Member Darrell Issa (R-CA)
"I support efforts to cut wasteful government spending and failing programs, but I'm skeptical that congressional Democrats are ready to work in good faith on a line-item veto or other real efforts to reduce spending. Congressional Democrats just like spending too much to give up real spending powers."
Ranking Member Darrell Issa
On May 20, during the Oversight and Government Reform Committee mark-up of H.R. 2142, the Government Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Performance Act, Congressman Aaron Schock (R-IL) offered an amendment

Schock Amendment: An Early Preview of How Democrats Will Attack Obama Line Item Veto Proposal and Tuesday, 25 May 2010 12:30



Some of the arguments Committee Democrats used on May 20 to defend wasteful spending programs and the spending power of Congress:
"This amendment would force agencies to plead for their lives, and I think it would be a distraction, causing them to be distracted from their mission. Instead of defending the public they would be defending themselves against extinction or being restructured into irrelevance."
"This is a backdoor effort to undermine our laws."
"The President has already established a commission on deficit reduction that is doing this work but its recommendations must be approved by the Congress and of course I think that's very important."

Chairman Edolphus Towns
"If you're gonna take away the power that my constituents gave me, I mean one centilla of it, then I wanna be in a position to at least go through it, try to figure out what that's all about."
Rep. Elijah Cummings
"I would ask [the author] actually to move even further and to look at our tax code, and to look at the waste that we have in terms of all of the tax expenditures – the tax credits, the exemptions, the deductions, that are granted around here that further exacerbate the debt and the deficit that we now have."

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Rep. Welch	
Rep. Foster	
Rep. Speier	
Rep. Driehaus	
Rep. Chu	
Click here to watch the debate on the Schock amendment (see 26:00 mark).	